

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO :

DATE: 12 August 1955

FROM :

Chief,

Office

197-55

SUBJECT:

1. Thank you for your letter of 3 August with enclosures.

[redacted] was very glad to hear from you, even though indirectly. He was also pleased to receive the "large document" which he is very much interested in. He is personally interested in the [redacted] group and two of the leading players of that group visited him at the [redacted] in the past month. He would be extremely interested in receiving the seeds you referred to in the third paragraph. Again he says he has been trying to get some of these for a long time.

2. In regard to your own classified report, he had the following comments to make:

1-a. There is no question but what this statement is an extremely accurate one to the point where recent conferences on the general subject have concerned superintendents of hospitals with regard to newer methods in a separation fashion for follow-up of patients receiving these drugs.

1-b. From our studies I would agree completely with this statement. However, there seems to be some indication that in most instances while there is merely a blockage of the pigment this is due to a tremendous increase in intraductal pressure as a consequence of the specific action of the drug on smooth muscle. I will be very glad to send to [redacted] when it is published, research bearing on this point.

1-c. We are currently undertaking deep electro-encephalographic load studies of this activity; the presumption is that it is not chlorpromazine responsible for the convulsions but rather an inciting of latent convulsive potentialities in patients with epilepsy.

1-d. I would agree with this statement completely.

1-e. In a recent discussion with [redacted] concerning the role of indoles at a meeting here, there was considerable discussion on this point. It should be emphasized that this is merely his hypothesis and the fact of an indole "toxic factor" is still purely conjectural.

- 1-f. The nicotinic acid studies have not been able to be reproduced by other groups attempting the same work which the [redacted] group has done. C
2. There is a publication recently made on the general subject of psychopharmacology reviewing the subjects under review here.
11. Our work confirms the impression stated here by [redacted] that there is no evidence of spindling in the electroencephalograph as is produced by barbiturates.
- 15-26 on the general subject of Rauwolfia derivatives: Kline's work has been reported elsewhere and one entire issue of the proceedings of the New York Academy of Science is devoted to an exposition of his work. There will shortly be published a symposium reporting on a conference held by Smith, Kline and French in Philadelphia on the subject of thorazine and Rauwolfia administration which elaborates on the points made under this general heading.
26. I would agree with this skepticism of the author of this with regard to his statements in No. 27.
30. Comments on the paper by [redacted] In our experience with normal subjects we encountered the same phenomenon in that the intensity of this subjective experience seems to be a function of the attitude of the subject and his relationship to the particular surroundings at the time of the experiment. C

Concerning the isolation work which has been undertaken at [redacted]

[redacted] It has been my impression that despite preliminary reports on this general subject by a number of investigators that in recent times there seems to have been an unusual switch in interest with a decrease in number of publications on the effects of isolation in humans. It seems to me to be of importance that this field has been neglected by pioneers in the subject -- or perhaps there are ulterior reasons!

3. [redacted] stated that [redacted] whose representative was at the [redacted] that day, had given him some more interesting material for his attention. C

4. I was very glad to get your letter and enclosures, as I am sure it has been a means of not letting our contacts go stale. I also want to say that everything is going to [redacted] personally, and your letter of transmittal was destroyed by me personally. A

[redacted]

Encs.